

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 CAIRO 04246 121808Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----121833Z 013675 /41

R 121726Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2657
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

S E C R E T CAIRO 4246

EXDIS

FOR NEA AND SY

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US, PLO
SUBJ: PREDICTION OF POSSIBLE REPRISALS AGAINST AMERICANS
FOLLOWING PRES CARTER'S PRESS CONFERENCE

1. DURING COURSE OF CONVERSATION WITH CHARGE MARCH 12 FAHMY'S
OFFICE DIR AL-BAZ, WHO OFTEN ACTS AS MFA LIAISON WITH
PALESTINIANS, WARNED THAT EVEN MODERATE PALESTINIANS
"ANGRY" AND "UPSET" BY PRES CARTER'S PUBLIC REMARKS DURING
RABIN VISIT. REFERENCE TO DEFENSIBLE BORDERS AND ESPECIALLY
OMISSION ANY REFERENCE TO A POSSIBLE PALESTINIAN STATE, WERE
DEEPLY RESENTED, AL-BAZ STRESSED. SPEAKING EARNESTLY, HE
ADDED THAT IN HIS OPINION, FEELING IS RUNNING SO HIGH THAT
SOME GROUPS WILL GO BACK UNDERGROUND AND RESORT TO TERRORISM
DIRECTED AT AMERICANS IN NEAR FUTURE. "US OFFICIALS IN THE
SECRET

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AREA (ME)" SHOULD BE VERY CAREFUL AND BE PARTICULARLY ALERT
TO THIS POSSIBILITY, HE CONCLUDED. HE WAS UNABLE TO GIVE ANY
DETAILS ON GROUPS INVOLVED OR THEIR TARGETS AND GAVE IM-
PRESSION THAT HE KNEW OF NO SPECIFIC PLANS.

2. COMMENT: WHILE WE DO NOT DISCOUNT AL-BAZ' APPARENT
"WARNING", WE NOTE HE DID NOT RPT NOT ALLEGE HE HAS FIRM

INFO THAT ANY GROUP IS ACTUALLY DISCUSSING CAMPAIGN AGAINST US OFFICIALS. FURTHER, IF GOE HAD EVIDENCE OF SUCH POSSIBILITY, WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT FONMIN FAHMY, WHOM CHARGE SAW JUST BEFORE MEETING AL-BAZ, WOULD HAVE SO INFORMED US. FAHMY, HOWEVER, DID NOT BRING UP SUBJECT. WE INCLINED TO BELIEVE THAT AL-BAZ, WHO WELL PLUGGED IN TO PLO CIRCUITS, DETECTS SUCH WAVE OF RESENTMENT AGAINST US THAT HE OFFERING FRIENDLY WARNING OF WHAT HE THINKS MIGHT RPT MIGHT DEVELOP. HOWEVER, WE CAN NOT EXCLUDE CONSIDERATION THAT AL-BAZ IS DELIBERATELY EXAGGERATING PLO IRE IN ORDER EXERT PRESSURE ON USG FOR MORE FORTHCOMING ATTITUDE TOWARD PAL-ESTINIANS.

3. I WILL AT EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY ASK FAHMY FOR CONFIRMATION AND DETAILS ON WHICH GROUPS MAKING SUCH THREATS.
MATTHEWS

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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